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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/805,241	03/22/2004	Joji Karasawa	118872	9067
25944	7590	05/09/2006		EXAMINER
OLIFF & BERRIDGE, PLC			DOWLING, WILLIAM C	
P.O. BOX 19928				ART UNIT
ALEXANDRIA, VA 22320				PAPER NUMBER
			2851	

DATE MAILED: 05/09/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/805,241	KARASAWA, JOJI	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	William C. Dowling	2851	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 15 February 2006.

2a) This action is FINAL. 2b) This action is non-final.

3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4) Claim(s) 1-3,5,10 and 11 is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6) Claim(s) 1-3,5,10 and 11 is/are rejected.

7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10) The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a) All b) Some * c) None of:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)

2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)

3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 5206

4) Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.

5) Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)

6) Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

1. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

2. Claims 1-3, 10-11 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over DeVaan (6,715,879) and known state of the art .

Claim 1 recites a conventional LCD type projector with the exception of the relative orientation of the light emitted from the projector to the screen. LCD projectors utilize LC cells sandwiched by polarizers for emitting a polarized light image. Since the claims lack any particular structure of the screen means it is deemed that the claim limitations are met by a conventional projector because a screen clearly could be oriented such that a long dimension is vertical or such that a short dimension is vertical depending upon how one wishes to display an image. Three color projectors are old and well known.

DeVaan discloses a projector wherein the direction of polarization of the light from such a known LCD projector (1) may be rotated through any desired direction by the use of element (4) which clearly would encompass longitudinal directions. Element (4) acts to filter the outgoing light such that the polarization of light reaching the screen is of a single predetermined direction. Webster's Ninth Collegiate Dictionary defines

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"filter" as "a device or material for suppressing or minimizing waves or oscillations of certain frequencies (as of electricity, light, or sound)". By converting light to a single polarization element (4) effectively filters the light by minimizing polarizations other than that desired. Screen (2) includes Fresnel (8) and diffusive (9) portions.

It would have been obvious to one skilled in the art at the time of the invention to utilize a conventional projector with details as is known in the art in combination with a polarization device as taught by DeVaan in order to control the polarization directed upon a screen.

3. Claim 5 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over DeVaan as applied to claim 1 above, and further in view of Shikama.

DeVaan and the known art discloses the invention substantially as claimed but does not specify the particular projection system.

Shikama teaches bending of the projection path.

It would have been obvious to one skilled in the art to modify the device of DeVaan for use with any known optical arrangement, such as taught by Shikama, in order to reduce the structure by bending the optical path.

Response to Arguments

4. Applicant's arguments filed 2/15/06 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive. Applicant's arguments are addressed in the body of the rejection.

Conclusion

5. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP

§ 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

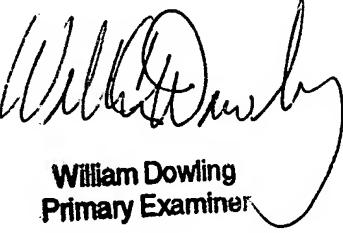
A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

6. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to William C. Dowling whose telephone number is 571-272-2116. The examiner can normally be reached on MON-THURS.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Judy Nguyen can be reached on 571-272-1750. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

wcd



The image shows a handwritten signature in black ink, which appears to read "William Dowling". Below the signature, there is printed text identifying the individual.

William Dowling
Primary Examiner